

Serial No. 09/755,308  
Art Unit No. 2671

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 5-12 are currently pending in the patent application. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-2 and 5-12 under 35 USC 112 and under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by the Thompson patent. Based on the amendments submitted herein, and on the argument set forth below, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the remaining claims, Claims 1-2 and 5-12 are definite and patentable over the cited Thompson reference.

The present invention provides a method for generating program messages, either for display or for program-to-program communications, to be generated in different character strings. The invention allows program messages to be effectively communicated, to a user when a user needs to communicate in a language other than the language in which the program was developed, and/or to another program, even when there have been changes in the program operation environment which would otherwise result in errors. The inventive approach creates at least one text file which describes text file character strings that can be used for the program messages, and automatically opens the

JP920000027

-10-

Serial No. 09/755,308  
Art Unit No. 2671

text file with the executable program. In a specific embodiment covered by Claims 2, 6, 8, 10, and 12, the executable program either displays character strings associated with the executable program (e.g., default character strings) or the retrieved text file character strings, depending upon the search key associated with the text file. The invention allows the executable program to select the appropriate display without requiring a developer to modify the source code.

The Examiner has rejected the amended claims based on the fact that Applicants amended the claims to recite "automatically" opening the text file. The Examiner has concluded that, "the automatic part is not described in the specification." Applicants respectfully disagree. While the term "automatically" did not appear in the specification, it is clear from the specification that the executable program is searching the search key, retrieving the character strings, and displaying the character strings without user input. Applicants direct the Examiner's attention, for example, to the teachings found on page 20, line 17 through page 21, line 6 wherein it is expressly taught that "the main file in the executable program...calls

JP920000027

-11-

Serial No. 09/755,308  
Art Unit No. 2671

the resource file...searches the search key...[and] reads character strings...into the main memory so as to display them". It is clear that the cited teachings describe automatic steps being conducted by the executable program. Applicants have inserted the "executable program" language by the present amendments to correspond to the above-cited teachings of the specification. Applicants believe that the 112 rejections are overcome by the foregoing arguments and amendments.

In response to the anticipation rejections, Applicants respectfully assert that the Thompson patent does not teach or suggest the invention as claimed. The Thompson patent is directed to a tool for a developer to use when compiling an application program for a particular country/user language (see: Col. 5, line 17-Col. 6, line 4). Thompson provides a set of string libraries which store textual components of application programs (Col. 3, lines 41-45). A developer using the Thompson system can access the text strings for the appropriate language from the string libraries. What Thompson further provides is a string processor which will transfer the appropriate text from the string libraries (Col. 3, lines 47-49), so that a developer doesn't have to

JP920000027

-12-

Serial No. 09/755,308  
Art Unit No. 2671

"page" through the index of a library to locate a specific string.

Applicants respectfully assert that the Thompson patent does not anticipate the invention as claimed. The Thompson tool is a developer tool which requires that the developer select and insert the desired character string. While the Thompson string processor facilitates the process by locating the string for the developer, the Thompson system and method still requires that the developer decide that a different character string is required, that the developer decide which character string must be retrieved from the string library (e.g., the developer tells the string processor to retrieve "XYZ command" in French); and, that the developer insert the retrieved string into the application being developed. In contrast, the present invention provides a run-time system, method, and program storage device whereby an executable program automatically opens a text file, automatically retrieves the text file character strings, and automatically displays characters strings, without any user input.

It is well established that, for a reference to anticipate claim language under 35 USC 102, that reference

JP920000027


-13-

Serial No. 09/755,308  
Art Unit No. 2671

must teach each and every claim feature. Since the Thompson reference does not teach a text file being openable with the executable program, does not teach an executable program automatically opening the text file, does not teach the executable program retrieving text file character strings, and does not teach the executable program generating program messages with one or the text file character strings or program character strings, it cannot be maintained that the Thompson reference anticipates the invention as claimed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the anticipation rejections.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, reconsideration of the amended claim language in light of the remarks, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,  
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JP920000027

-14-